

**SPEECH AS DELIVERED**

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**SPEECH TO PARTY CONFERENCE**

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**'UKIP'S BROADENED POLICY PROGRAMME'**

## **1. Introduction**

**Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**Jim Naughtie got it wrong on the 'Today Programme' this week – he said the Conference season was over. But he forgot about us – Britain's 4<sup>th</sup> largest party by vote, 2.7 million votes in 2004, 10 MEPs, 2 Lords, 50 councillors and 17,000 members like you. Well Jim, we're not only here, we have a lot to say.**

**It is my pleasure to lead this policy session. I will introduce members of our policy groups shortly, and we have 3 more subjects tomorrow. But I want now just to set the overall scene on our policy work.**

**Now we have followed the Conferences by the three other parties. But like drowning men in a sinking ship, they have to reach up for an ever closing pocket of air. Because this country is losing so much power and control to the incoming tide of the EU, they have less and less to do. British political parties are going down with the EU ship.**

**And now we face an EU Reform Treaty that will give even more control away - control of our Transport, our Energy, 60 vetoes over other areas, a de facto Foreign Minister and EU Embassies replacing British embassies. No wonder the Irish Prime Minister admits its 95% of the original Constitution.**

**This treaty is the End Game – they don't need any more treaties as it will be 'self-amending'. And that means Goodbye Britain. What a tragedy for a nation built on hundreds of years of freedoms, of decency, of respect, the rule of law and human rights, and courage in fighting dictators. Destroyed by stealth, by the lies and deceit of appeasers – by a compliant political class.**

**This Treaty is a disgrace. The EU Constitution is unconstitutional under our British Constitution. The French have had 18 Constitutions so far, well we just want to keep our one !**

**[ SHOW UK PASSPORT ]**

**See this passport. Remember when it was a proper size ? Now our Government has given in to EU proposals to change our passports, the kind we have had since 1414. No more mention of our Queen, no more 'in the Name of Her Majesty'. No, we will now have the words 'Every citizen of the Union' – the European Union - in our passports. And we really will be then being in a EU political state. In 3 years time. This is very funny kind of Common Market, isn't it ?!**

**People often ask: are we UKIP a pressure group or a political party ? Well, I think we're a pressure party. There are over 60 Eurosceptic pressure groups, but there is only one you can vote for – us.**

**But Ladies and Gentlemen, to stop the destruction of our country we must be in the political game. We must appeal to voters. So we must ensure we shape a product that they want, that's relevant to them, not us, that interests them, not just us.**

**And that's where domestic policies come in. If a pollster were to ask us what policy matters most, you know the answer we'd give: the EU. First, second, third.... And last too.**

**But, you know, every single poll shows that if you ask voters, they give a very different answer. Recent professional research asked voters what policies mattered most to them. Well, Labour voters put the EU eighth. Lib Dem voters 7<sup>th</sup>. And even Conservative voters – 4<sup>th</sup> ! Overall, the EU comes 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> in terms of rankings, and is not regarded as being a 'vote shifter'.**

**What the voter wants to hear about most is healthcare, crime, taxation, education, immigration. And that's why we need domestic policies – because it's what the British people want, and because it makes us relevant to their lives.**

**Hidden deep in a recent Guardian / ICM poll was this fact: normally only 1% of Conservatives would think of voting UKIP in a General Election Now it is 5%. Doesn't sound much maybe, but a 4% change is often the difference between winning and losing in marginal seats.**

**And the good news is that other research shows that if we appeal to the wider electorate then on top of the 5% definitely voting for us, and the 8% if we push it, there is potential for another 37% to vote for us. Enough to win even !**

**And we have such an opportunity ! If we leave the European Union we will have a wide canvas, free of the chains of Brussels bureaucracy. For how can you improve people's lives if you don't govern your own country ?**

**Mr Brown says he wants controls on immigration, but has he asked permission from the EU ? Not allowed. First Ken Livingstone and now Boris Johnson want to bring back the Routemaster bus, but did they ask permission from the EU ? Not allowed. David Cameron wants to renegotiate the European Social Chapter and reinstate border controls. Not allowed. And all the parties want to save Post Offices. But it is the EU that stops that. Not allowed.**

**And that's why democracy is dying – in truth British politicians have given most of their power away, but they don't dare admit it to the British people. They can't do what they say they can.**

**Well, only UKIP can get rid of the 75% of our national laws that come from the EU. Only UKIP can get rid of the 120,000 directives and**

regulations that hold us back. And only UKIP can recover the £50 billion a year it costs us to be part of this racket. We could enjoy the benefits of trade, as Norway and Switzerland do – the two richest countries in Europe per head – without all these costs.

UKIP says: 'In Europe, but not in the EU !' The only Union we want is the British Union. And, Mr Salmond, when the Union flag flies over Scottish buildings so does the Scottish saltaire. The saltaire is at the heart of the Union Flag. And that's where it's staying !

What we need is a return to good common sense policies.

Ladies and Gentlemen, We live in a crazy world, don't we ? Innocent people like Rhys Jones and Magda Pniewska gunned down on our streets as if in Al Capone's Chicago. Community Support Officers standing by why a little boy drowns because of Health and Safety rules. Hate crime exists – you can see it in the pages of Orwell's '1984' – it's called 'thought crime'.

Hysterical reactions to Global Warming, replacing bright light bulbs with those awful, dim and clunky alternatives. Human rights lawyers harrying our courageous soldiers and destroying their careers. Billions spent on paying people to lay about on sofas, or to go down the pub or bookies, instead of working.

**And UKIP can make a real difference to people's lives ! We can put an end to this craziness !**

**Last year we took the decision to broaden our policy base, with the '5 Right Things To Do' policy initiative under Roger Knapman.**

**And as a result of appealing to a wider spectrum of people, we have attracted major figures to UKIP. People like Tim Congdon who will write a paper for us.**

## **2. The Policy Teams**

**And now we have a full complement of 17 policy groups. So when John Humphrys asks if we are just a 'one trick pony', as he asked Nigel a few days ago, we can say: 'no John, we have a cavalry !'**

**Because we have an extraordinary breadth and depth of talent in our groups.**

**We have leading academics...**

**The Energy & The Environment group is being headed up by Professor Derek Smith, who has worked in many energy and engineering companies. He is with us today.**

**Jobs, Enterprise and Economy is chaired by Professor Stephen Bush of the Centre for Manufacturing at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology ( UMIST ).**

**We have technical experts such as...**

**David Lamb who heads the Pensions, Benefits & Social Welfare group, one of Europe's foremost experts in pensions, ably assisted by senior accountant Mark Wadsworth on the Social Welfare side.**

**We have those with hands on experience:**

**Law & Order is co-Chaired by Tam Large JP, a serving magistrate and former Conservative councillor, here on stage, and Mark Warren, with direct experience of probation and community sentences.**

**Housing and Planning by Mark Stroud, a housing association estate manager. And we are very fortunate to also have Mrs Thatcher's former housing adviser, Professor Alice Coleman, assisting this group.**

**Fishing is co-Chaired by Robert Gotts, who has his own trawler, and by Peter Wyatt, former Royal Navy and Coastal Protection.**

**International Trade & Development is headed by Tony Stone, who has extensive experience in global transport shipping companies, and David Sinclair, the former Editor of the Financial 'Mail on Sunday' and author of 'The Pound – a Biography'. David and Tony are both with us today.**

**Healthcare is headed by Dr Penny Law with support from Andrew Moncrieff and healthcare practitioner Julie Langton Smith.**

**Education has already produced a paper, and is headed up by the very successful Headmistress Rachel Oxley**

**Agriculture by John Wiseman, who is a Chairman of both Farmers' Associations and the Commercial Farmers' Union. I am grateful for the hands on help of Lord Willoughby to this group. The group is being advised by a former Permanent Secretary of MAFF. A Poacher turned Gamekeeper you might say !**

**Restoring Britishness is to be headed up by Delroy Young, an NEC Member and head of UKIP Youth. This is a vital area to discuss common values and identity.**

**And The How We're Governed group ( the Constitution ) is chaired by me, in my former capacity as a Special Adviser to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.**

**We also have top military people...**

**Defence has members serving on the front line. This group is co-Chaired by the former Commander of Britain's nuclear submarine fleet and policy adviser to the Chief of the Defence Staff, Rear Admiral Richard Heaslip, and our hard working defence spokesman and friend of Alexander Litvinenko, London MEP Gerard Batten.**

**And of course we have our own hard working MEP spokesmen heading up groups...**

**Immigration is also chaired by Gerard Batten.**

**John Whittaker MEP wrote our Flat Tax paper, now being updated, and is a lecturer in economics at Lancaster University**

**Mike Natrass MEP is our Transport spokesman, and I chair the Transport group, having worked in transport**

**I'd like to thank all those who have worked so hard on brainstorming sessions, research trips, studying data and the hard graft of writing papers. Thank you all for what you've done for the party.**

### **3. The Policies in Brief**

**So what are the fruits so far of this work ? We will be releasing the precise detail of policies as the papers are rolled out, but this gives a flavour:**

- **UKIP will leave the political EU and trade globally and freely. We will reembrace today's fast growing Commonwealth and we'll encourage UK manufacturing – we'll make things again !**
- **We will freeze immigration for 5 years, speed up deportation of up to a million illegal immigrants by tripling the numbers engaged in deportations, and have 'no home, no visa' work permits to ease the housing crisis**

- We will have a grammar school in every town. We will restore standards of education and improve skills training. And student grants will replace student loans
- We will radically reform the working of the NHS with an NHS Insurance Fund, whilst upholding 'free at the point of care' principles. We will bring back matrons and have locally run, clean hospitals
- We will give people the vote on policing priorities, go back to proper beat policing, and scrap the Human Rights Act. We will have sentences that mean what they say
- We will take 4.5 million people out of tax with a simple Flat Tax ( with NI ) starting at £10,000. We will scrap Inheritance Tax not just reform it, and cut corporation taxes
- We will say No to green taxes and to wind farms. And to avert a major energy crisis, we will go for new nuclear power plants on the same existing sites facilities and for clean coal. We will reduce pollution and encourage recycling
- We will make welfare simpler and fairer, introduce 'workfare' to get people back to work, and a new citizen's pension and private pensions scheme insurance
- We will support our armed forces with more spending on equipment, military homes and medical care. We will save our threatened warships, and add 25,000 more troops
- We will be fair to England with an English Parliament of English Westminster MPs. We will replace assembly members like MSPs with MPs. And we will promote referendums at local and national levels
- We will make customer satisfaction number 1 for rail firms not cost cutting, and will look seriously at reopening some rail lines that idiot Beeching

closed. We will make foreign lorries pay for UK roads with a 'Britdisc' - and we'll stop persecuting motorists !

- And last, but never least, we will bring in fair prices and fair competition for our suffering farmers, and restore traditional British fishing and territorial waters.

#### 4. Conclusion

Ladies and Gentlemen, in conclusion, whilst our primary aim is to leave the European Union, and will always remain so, as a party we can and must offer a range of domestic policies that are generally radical, different and unique to us.

Because only UKIP offers the British people the opportunity to leave the European Union and to regain our freedoms, our independence and to prosper internationally outside of it.

Thank you.